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Scientific but not glamorous – the work of the BKA

Many people call the "glass box" on the Geisberg in Wiesbaden "the house of a thousand secrets". Others compare the main office of the Federal Republic criminal police with FBI headquarters in America or Scotland Yard.

They imagine that in this building that is verboten for members of the public there is an army of super-commissioners, with pistols at the ready in shoulder holsters, and that from here world-ranging dragnets for gangsters begin.

Truth is stranger than this fiction. Certainly you have to show your credentials to the gatekeeper before you can enter the Bundeskriminalamt HQ, but the building does not contain 1,000 secrets so much as 1,000 files.

The work of Scotland Yard and the FBI is not identical with that of the BKA. And the sixty-year old President of the BKA, teacher's son Paul Dickopf from the Westerwald, is like most of his ilk, not in the least like James Bond – he is a criminologist with training in law and the natural sciences, jovial and reminiscent of Gerd Fröhlich (James Bond's adversary in *Goldfinger*).

Twenty years ago, in March 1951, the Bundestag passed legislation for the setting up of a "Federal criminal investigation bureau" and set clear aims for the BKA. The most important part of the bureau's work is to collect reports and information for the fight against crime, carry out identification work and develop crime-fighting techniques.

Dis-concert-ing!

Exuse me, Sir, I'm doing a survey on what people think of concerted action," asked the Wickert Institute (Tübingen) interviewer.

"It's a charity thing, collecting old musical instruments, isn't it?"

"I think it's people who come round asking if you've got old newspapers."

"Concerted action? A concert programme!"

These are some of the things people in this country think Karl Schiller's scheme of economic discussions between both sides of industry might be. Of the 2,011 asked only eleven per cent knew the answer.

Seventy per cent said: "Never heard of it!"

(DIE WELT, 15 March 1971)

logists, toxicologists and ballistics experts.

In order to aid crime prevention and investigation officers in the Federal states and boroughs the Bundeskriminalamt also serves as this country's Interpol headquarters.

One hundred and seven countries of the free West and Yugoslavia are attached to this international police organisation. In 1968 Paul Dickopf, the BKA boss, was elected its President for a four-year term.

The BKA is in round-the-clock radio touch with forty interpolations. By this means 115,000 pieces of information were exchanged in the international police cooperation scheme last year.

The BKA's weapons are a desk, a typewriter, dossiers, microscope and complicated technical equipment.

The number of indictable offences in this country has risen to about 2,500,000 a year and in order to fight the criminal there are 740 officials working at the Wiesbaden headquarters. Many of them are doctors, physcists, chemists, bi-

ologists, toxicologists and ballistics experts.

Presenting the new fashion trends for the first time, the magazine, "a woman's head" place for problems, not nice button

According to the director of the Democratic Republic Fashion, Wolfgang Fröhlich, fashions should break away from Western ideas and more and more alternatives to what

capitalists have to offer.

The *Freie Deutsche Jugend* section "Forum" included a report by Wolfgang Fröhlich in which he reported television for showing people who were always dressed in modern fashions and thus setting a bad ex-

He said that it was necessary for the united Information and communication system on the question of fashion, get an agreement from all involved how to educate the young in the modern taste.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 17 May 1971)

P.S. I love you

Helmut Schmidt, the Defence Minister, is the most popular man with the ladies. Sacks full of letters for him asking for an autograph are nothing short of passionate letters.

One interesting factor is the collection of 2,000 different types of pistol for comparative purposes.

Less exciting, but much more important in the tracking down of the ordinary criminal, however, are the files and dossiers in which details and misdeeds of lawbreakers from this country and abroad are registered.

Unless indications are deceptive it was the politbureau itself, anxious to cover the tracks of the central committee and its First Secretary, tracks that make it clear that the monolithic unity so often referred to in the course of the congress is a mere phrase with little bearing on the true state of affairs.

Even the increase in size of the politbureau by four to fifteen members represents a change in majorities in this highest-ranking Party body.

Bearing in mind the way in which Leonid Brezhnev visibly dominated the Party congress it is hard to credit that the

currents of what might be termed regionalism also made their appearance at the congress. Constituent Soviet republics set greater store by their own economic interests.

The election of regional Party leaders Kulayev and Shcherbitskii as members of the politbureau is probably more a reflection of this trend than promotion for the Party leader's henchmen.

So it remains to be seen what the consequences of the triumph Mr Brezhnev would, on the face of it, appear to have achieved at the congress will be on the home front.

The congress resolution largely follows the recommendations made by the First

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

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Red-hot pants

Girls and young women in the Democratic Republic have long swing to hot pants. But the East German magazine *Für Dich* is cold to them.

Hamburg, 22 April 1971
Teenth Year - No. 471 - By air

The German Tribune



Star-studded reception

Willy Brandt is here seen at a Palais Schaumburg reception for show business stars from all over the German-speaking world. In the centre are Danish-Austrian husband and wife team Vivi Bach and Dieter Schönhaar, on the right singer Hildegard Knef, married to David Carradine.

careful euphemism referring to this phenomenon.

In foreign policy, on the other hand, the Brezhnev course of proceeding on various levels with various nations has gained full acceptance.

There is to be ideological consolidation, strengthening of the ties between socialist countries and forward strategy in social and political trouble spots but an opening towards the capitalist world is demanded and the reason stated.

The motive behind this demand is foreign experience in economics, science and technology, which is to be utilised in order to boost Soviet economic efficacy. The door to the West has been left open a chink.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 13 April 1971)

The President in his speech noticeably not only maintained his ambition of bringing the last men home but also proposes to bring the entire Indo-China operation to a conclusion that can be made out to be a success.

A year ago Mr Nixon thanked a majority of Americans for their support. He now addressed a large number of disbelieving and disappointed people and his arguments have grown more cutting.

Should America, he asked, leave South Vietnam in such a way that it would be left at the Communists' mercy without even a chance of making good on its own?

Outlining an alternative of this kind sounds almost as though Mr Nixon would like to brand the doves, who number prominent and honourable Republicans among their ranks, as fellow-travellers – an accusation that used to be most effective.

The peacemakers, for their part, are wondering whether any freedom at all exists in Vietnam and whether the United States has not already done more than might have been expected of it.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 10 April 1971)

Frankfurter Allgemeine

ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

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"Zeitung für Deutschland" ("Newspaper for Germany") is a publication that reflects both the Frankfurter Allgemeine's underlying purpose and, more literally, its circulation – which covers West Berlin and the whole of the Federal Republic. In addition to 140 editors and correspondents of its own, the paper has 450 "foreigners" reporting from all over Germany and around the world. 300,000 copies are printed daily, of which 220,000 go to subscribers. 20,000 are distributed

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Frankfurter Allgemeine

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TOURISM

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Courageous and consistent are the epithets used by President Nixon's supporters to describe his eagerly awaited statement on the Vietnam war. Yet many people who had hoped for more unambiguous sign that the United States is to pull out of the war rate the President's speech a disappointment.

Mr Nixon is retaining his strategy ofVietnamising the war, attempting gradually to withdraw US troops and increasing handing over the waging of the war to the South Vietnamese.

Republican Nixon hopes in this way to achieve after all the aims that induced his Democratic predecessors Kennedy and Johnson to station more than half a million GIs in Vietnam.

During his two years in office Richard Nixon has nearly halved this figure and a further 100,000 men are to be withdrawn by 1 December next. At the same time there can be no doubt that his figure falls

below the expectations and probably below the hopes originally harboured by the present administration.

Mr Nixon claims that his aim is to pull out all American troops but avoids committing himself to a deadline or period of time during which the 184,000 men who will still be stationed in Vietnam at the end of the year are to be brought home.

The President believes that the facts and the action he has already taken warrant his claim to confidence and support.

Mr Nixon has limited his latest withdrawal programme to 1 December so as to see what the military situation is at the beginning of the next dry season.

This means that the decision more

and more Americans are awaiting, the decision as to when the last American is to leave the war theatre, has again been postponed.

At the same time there have been few changes in the membership of the new central committee, which elects and dismisses members of the politbureau. In comparison three out of four delegates to the congress were novices.

Should Mr Brezhnev intend to carry out a thorough reshuffle at the top he will have no option but to take time, facing gradual changes on the basis of

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

No need for haste in Prague talks

Paul Frank, Secretary of State at the Foreign Office, is cagey about the outcome of his first round of talks with Czech Deputy Foreign Minister Kusak.

His talks in Prague has again confirmed that the Czech government is not prepared to give a millimetre on its demand that the 1938 Munich Agreement be declared to have been null and void from the word go.

In view of the legal consequences, particularly for Sudeten Germans, Bonn cannot comply. The two men arranged a further round of talks in Bonn, but they will probably not be held until May.

The relatively long interval between the two probes would seem to indicate that the Bonn Federal government has no intention of proceeding with the negotiations with Prague in undue haste.

There is, indeed, no reason why it should. It could well even be asked whether it was wise to send Secretary of State Frank to the Czech capital at the present juncture.

As long as the fate of the Moscow and Warsaw treaties remains uncertain in view of failure so far to reach agreement over

Berlin the Federal government ought to avoid burdening itself with the additional problem of laboriously bargaining with Prague over the terms of a compromise on the Munich Agreement.

Progress towards a treaty with Prague ought not to be envisaged until a satisfactory Berlin settlement is in the offing and the Moscow and Warsaw treaties can be ratified.

Waiting and seeing is all the more advisable for a satisfactory outcome to the Four-Power talks on Berlin not yet having loomed on the horizon.

For two reasons the Czech government is nevertheless most interested in entering into treaty negotiations with Bonn as soon as possible.

It is hoping on the one hand for an increase in economic aid from this country in the form of higher credits. The Husák government also harbours hopes that negotiations with the Federal government as a Western country will boost its own mediocre prestige at home.

Talks between Bonn and Prague will, it is hoped, lead to a return to normal in relations between the two countries at a

Israel would do well to reconsider

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Now that the Egyptian terms have been made known it is easy to see why the Israeli government has rejected President Sadat's offer of a new armistice agreement.

The proposal was for direct negotiations with Israel and passage of the Suez canal for Israeli ships, two now end important concessions, but the price asked in return was one that Golda Meir could not pay without jeopardising her country's security — undated Israeli withdrawal from the Canal Zone and its reoccupation by Egyptian troops.

A withdrawal was not out of the question, but only provided that both sides agreed to demilitarisation of the area in question. Instead of pulling back the front lines, though, Cairo merely insists that they have moved to its advantage.

Israel has been urged by its best friends, particularly by the United States, not to miss the opportunity of Egypt's offer. It does not have to agree to Cairo's conditions, merely to show willingness to contribute towards a relaxation of tension.

The Israeli response has not come up to its friends' expectations. Mrs Meir has listed a number of counter-demands but failed to formulate them as a counter-proposal, which would have been the only diplomatically effective rejoinder.

The emphasis has been placed on what Israel cannot agree to. Now this may good domestic tactics for a government that has cast off the ballast of the right-wing Gahal Party but the probable foreign policy effect can be summed up in a quote from Goethe: "The others mainly hear the 'no'."

Even so undeniable an Israeli patriot as David Ben Gurion has warned against neglecting this opportunity of negotiating regardless of what amount to significant sacrifices. Reappraisal would be well worth considering.

(*Süddeutsche Zeitung*, 6 April 1971)

Sino-Soviet war of words

Kieler Nachrichten

The war of words between Moscow and Peking has gained considerably in volume in recent weeks. It is hard to say who started. Soviet accusations were certainly first levelled over Radio Moscow in Chinese.

The Chinese leaders, Radio Moscow claimed, are making it easier for the United States to neutralise their country. They reject anti-imperialist cooperation with the Soviet Union and have betrayed the principles of the Far East Community.

Whereupon the Chinese trained the big guns on their rivals. On the hundredth anniversary of the Commune the three leading Chinese daily commented that:

"The Soviet renegades have made the Soviet Union a paradise for a handful of bureaucratic monopoly capitalists of a new kind and turned it into a penitentiary for millions of working people."

Leonid Brezhnev may have made a gesture in Peking's direction in offering China "good-neighbourly relations" in his party congress speech and relations between the two have indeed improved.

But reconciliation between the two parties need hardly be expected. The Chinese were evidently not even invited to attend the Party Congress in Moscow. Five years ago the Chinese failed to respond to the invitation.

(*Frankfurter Rundschau*, 7 April 1971)

Podgorny and Pakistan

Soviet President Podgorny's cable to President Yahya Khan of Pakistan calling on the Islamabad government to end bloodshed in East Pakistan comes as something of a surprise.

The Soviet Union is running the risk of being accused by the military regime in Pakistan of intervening in the domestic affairs of a foreign country. This is a risk Moscow is evidently prepared to take.

President Podgorny rightly comments that there can be no military solution to the conflict between the two parts of Pakistan, only a political one.

(*Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland*, 5 April 1971)

stage at which the Czech government, in the wake of the 1968 occupation of the country, has yet to re-establish normal relations with its own people.

While Secretary of State Frank was discussing the possibility of a treaty renouncing the use of force with the Czech Deputy Foreign Minister in Prague Premier Gustav Husák effusively thanked fraternal parties at the Moscow congress of the Soviet Communist Party for the Warsaw Pact invasion.

Needless to say, the invasion remains both for Czechoslovakia and in the light of world opinion an act of brutal repression.

These too are aspects that Bonn cannot completely ignore in endeavouring to come to terms with Prague. Herr Frank was right in stressing that "we intend and have to overcome the unpleasant past."

Unfortunately many factors are none too promising at present and they cannot always be ignored entirely.

Werner Neumann

(*Lübecker Nachrichten*, 3 April 1971)

Brandt and Colombo confer in Bonn

Like Bonn the Italian government would consider it historically tragic if Britain's Common Market entry bid fails to fall, particularly as Premier Emilio Colombo feels that negotiations have already reached a more binding stage.

So it is that in their Bonn talks Chancellor Willy Brandt and the Italian Premier tried to reach a compromise formula midway between the British and French views on Britain's application.

The Bonn Federal government must be gratified to think that an Italian Christian Democrat expressly considers Bonn's *Ostpolitik* to represent progress towards European integration.

When Willy Brandt last visited Rome Colombo welcomed Bonn's opening to the East as a constructive step towards detente, though he made it clear that *Ostpolitik* would lose all point if the close links between Bonn's policies on detente and European integration were to be severed.

A relaxation of tension based on individual moves, the Italian Premier feels, will not get far.

In view of the recent visit to Rome by Egyptian Foreign Minister Riad the situation in the Mediterranean and the Middle East was bound to be an important item on the agenda of the consultations between Italy and this country.

The Federal government will have gained valuable insight into Egypt's point of view from what the Italian Premier had to say.

One point can be made with certainty. The traditional toasts to fruitful and unproblematic political cooperation will have been more than lip service in this instance.

Christian Deysson

(*Kieler Nachrichten*, 2 April 1971)

No time to lose on Britain's EEC entry bid

Hannoversche Allgemeine

It is no secret that the English Germans are cousins, as it were, that cousins sometimes get on better brothers. Anglo-Federal Republic on Britain's EEC entry bid is established fact whereas fraternal feuds between Bonn and Paris on point leaves much to be desired.

It is a basic requirement of the democratic setup. Now it has led to both major political parties in this country taking on a definite shape. But in addition it has meant that the development of politics in the Federal Republic has been unable to go to any extremes. The most recent provincial assembly elections showed this up clearly enough.

And furthermore, with all the pros and cons of the debates in the Bundestag a great number of laws have been passed for which the government and Opposition have worked together harmoniously.

If more and more observers are raising more and more warning voices about the march of polarisation in the Federal Republic it is because this country's situation as far as a number of questions that are decisive for our times are concerned demands increasing unified action on the part of the two major political parties, more unified action than appears to be in the offing on the surface.

The two treaties with communist countries, the search for a satisfactory solution of the Berlin Question, indeed unavoidable reforms — such as tax reform — over a long-term without complete integration of the two partners.

But this will scarcely do anything to alter the overall picture. This only serves to accentuate the internal fissures of the FDP. In the Socialist/Liberal coalition up until now the SPD and FDP were partners and competitors at one and the same time. At forthcoming elections it will be difficult, if not impossible, for them to continue along these lines.

As far as the Christian Democrats are concerned these trends mean that if they want to come to power they will have to go all out to gain an absolute majority at the next general election. These changes in the party political scene that have been noted recently are not particularly conducive to optimism with regard to the degree of polarisation that is involved.

It has not been an everyday occurrence in the history of the Federal Republic that a decision on foreign policy, such as the matter of treaties with Russia and Poland, should affect the make-up of a provincial assembly as has been the case in the Rhineland Palatinate, where the FDP called for neutrality in the Federal Republic or in Baden-Württemberg, where a government crisis that arose from the same set of circumstances may in certain circumstances end the coalition between the Christian Democrats and Social Democrats prematurely.

Certainly between now and 1973 a lot of water can flow under our political bridge. The process of fermentation within the parties goes on apace. And the alluvial sand of the electorate flows towards one party one day and another the next; a process that is becoming more marked all the time. The number of floating voters is at present estimated to be about twenty per cent of the electorate.

At the elections in Berlin the CDU gained in those wards that are traditionally red. In the Rhineland Palatinate the CDU lost in areas that are noted to be strongly Catholic, while they made gains in the Protestant areas that have tended to be less disposed towards them.

At that time the Social Democrats tried to block the decision via the Bundesrat (Upper House).

On the surface it seems that the severest split between the government and Opposition will come as a result of the East Bloc treaties and the government's *Ostpolitik*. There is a certain amount of blame to be laid at their door since the trip to Moscow came much too early and was taken for spectacular reasons. Nevertheless it would be dangerous if a gap were opened up now between the government and Opposition on this score and all the bridges between them were burnt.

In fact the Opposition is not so unified as it appears to be. In its rejection of what the government is doing as may seem to be the case at the present moment.

older generation and will give their votes according to the tactics of one party or another.

It is particularly in the younger generation that a feeling has arisen that the basis of our political order and our society, and along with it also our whole style of living, do not always meet the demands called by our age.

The battle to try to do justice to these demands is at the present time and will in the immediate future be the task and at the same time the dilemma of every government.

We are — as experts never tire of reassuring us — still contradictory and procrastinate in drawing consequences from the situation in which the division of Germany, large-scale industrialisation and the shift of economic emphasis from agriculture have forced on us.

It is essential to take a sober look and recognise that the natural emphasis on the legislative branch, the executive branch and the dynamics of our industrial society can never be completely abolished. For every government, whatever constituent parties form it, there will be a great difficulty in recognising the appropriate yardstick for essential reforms.

Whatever is essential today, and we have fallen so far behind that there is a great deal in this category, must take precedence. Even the most sober calculations of what is to happen in the near and distant future must take great risk into account.

We are navigating dangerous waters in which excessive polarisation can be perilous.

In a recent interview Gerhard Schröder (CDU) said that this should not lead to poison-mixing or defamation of political opponents.

We cannot handle the division of the Bundestag into good and evil alongside the division of the nation. We could not set up in the Bundestag 251 goodie-goodies against 243 badguys.

Schröder is of the opinion that the initiative must lie with the government which has at its disposal the most significant and influential offices. This is, of course, quite right since the government has direct access to all the information that are for the most part far-reaching and vital to large sectors of the community.

A glance back reveals deliberation on topics such as the budget, civil service pay, environmental protection, further education, agricultural aid and the reform of the postal system.

On the surface the pros and cons of governmental and financial reform may seem to have carried more weight, but for the man in the street the individual topics and decisions taken will prove to be far more important.

For example government interest often declared in the financing of university building programmes and expenditure on hospitals shows a far-reaching change from the federal structure of this country, even though many advocates of a State system that is as decentralised as possible are not keen to recognise this.

After the Easter recess Bundestag members will have to be no less industrious if they hope to have the work they have begun on important legislature finished according to schedule.

For this very reason there are frequent calls for parliamentary work to be rationalised by means of far-reaching reforms.

Up until now all plans to tighten up the work of Bundestag committees and to leave their legislative work to a kind of rump parliament have all fallen through.

Democracy must not be endangered if the formation of political wills takes place in the Bundestag, but individual decisions on specific points are made in special expert committees.

Even now the plenary meetings of the Bundestag usually pass legislation that has already been discussed and decided by the parliamentary committees.

Bundestag in urgent need of reform

The Bundestag Easter holidays are an occasion for observers in Bonn to take stock of the situation and consider with a critical eye how the Bundestag's operations can be simplified and at the same time "politicised".

At the end of the first quarter of 1971 many members of the Bundestag share a feeling of uneasiness about unproductive, long debates, that have often been conducted with an eye to election tactics, on subjects such as facets of foreign and domestic policies.

It was not a mere matter of chance that the suggestion was put forward that Bundestag sessions should only take place in the mornings since the rows and rows of empty benches of the evening sessions give a general impression of disinterest.

The present Bundestag system is simply too much work for members. The major debates overshadow the effort and energy put into the minutiae of the Bundestag which has to be carried out in the committees so that our legislative system keeps running. Members of the Bundestag would have a much easier time of it, if it were not for the special State system in this country.

Kieler Nachrichten

Following the Second World War and as a result of the vast technical and economic developments which have made vast areas of the legal system need a thorough overhaul.

At the 25 plenary sessions and well over two hundred committee meetings in the first three months of this year there were more than one hundred items of legislation going through the prescribed three readings. These touched upon matters that are for the most part far-reaching and vital to large sectors of the community.

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Klaus Körff

(*Kieler Nachrichten*, 5 April 1971)

Bruno Heck and the Berlin question

Christian Democrat party secretary, Bruno Heck who is at present spending several days in Berlin said at a recent press

POLITICS**Communists attract more members than active voters**

The elections in West Berlin and Rhineland-Palatinate have corrected any false impressions that may have been gained of the strength of the Communist Party (DKP) from the material issued and speeches made during the election campaign.

The party gained 0.9 per cent of the votes in Rhineland-Palatinate and its sister organisation, the SEW (the Socialist Unity Party of West Berlin), which has a special position in the city anyway, attracted 2.3 per cent, hardly a sign that

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

the DKP enjoys the broad political support of the public.

Communists are still outsiders in the political and social life of the Federal Republic. The DKP was set up in 1969 and officially tolerated despite the ban on the former Communist Party, the KPD, but party work is largely carried out behind closed doors. How strong are the new Communists in actual fact and what do they believe in?

When the Constitutional Court banned the KPD in August 1956 the party had 70,000 members. According to unofficial estimates, the DKP has 33,000 members.

Almost three thousand of this total joined the DKP in the past three months, undeniably result of increased Communist activity in the elections to the Provincial Assemblies of West Berlin and Rhineland-Palatinate.

Rallies, electioneering and party functions show clearly that it is mainly young people such as students who are attracted by the Communists despite the authoritarian beliefs of the Marxist cadre party.

These young people have had no personal experience of either right-wing or left-wing dictatorships and are not offended by the portrait of Stalin that looks down upon them in party headquarters.

Problems of foreign or domestic policy are even local or regional grievances are being used as an excuse for Communist-controlled community action campaigns.

Since the KPD was banned, there has been a natural decrease in the numbers of old Communists. They have gradually been replaced in the new DKP by young Communists, a considerable number of whom come from the Spartacus Association of Marxist Youth and the Education and Science Trade Union.

But it is still the old KPD members and officials like Kurt Bechmann, the sixty-year-old DKP Chairman, or Richard Schreiber, the party's seventy-year-old agricultural expert, that control the party.

For the party newspaper *Unsere Zeit* (UZ) Bechmann employs unpaid functionaries, long-serving party journalists such as Thomas Silberstein of the German Democratic Republic's *Deutschland*.

CDU mourns the death of Josef Hermann Duhues

The Minister of the Interior viewed developments with caution and would not hesitate in case of emergency to ban extremist groups or set in motion the machinery to ban them.

On the left-wing the Communists are faced by a large number of groups belonging to the New Left that considered themselves to be part of a revolutionary movement but were at odds over the strategy to be employed, Ruhau continued...

Communists in the Federal Republic who remain true to the Moscow party line are organised in the DKP, a party whose programme drawn up on 13 April 1969 is in line with the Federal Republic's Party Law.

The Senator pointed out that the DKP was largely made up of officials of the banned KPD and its membership. The question of whether the DKP was a revived KPD and therefore subject to the ban was of subordinate interest, Ruhau said. The question of whether an extremist party should be banned is more a question of political opportunity, he added.

Ruhau believes that the Red Cells formed mainly at universities belong to the many groups of New Left originating from the student protest movement.

Many of these groups had revolutionary aims that were definitely unconstitutional, he said, adding that most of these Red Cells were just about as stable as their aims. (DIE WELT, 24 March 1971)

DKP officials hope to attract You Socialist sympathies for this campaign.

The agitation being carried out by Communists old and new can be seen from the number of their publications. During the Lenin-Liebknecht-Luxemburg Week alone the DKP issued 108 fact newspapers with a circulation of 189,000 copies, 53 local papers with a circulation of 111,000 copies, clavens, unives papers and a large number of pamphlets.

This figure does not include the publications for the local elections held in Baden-Württemberg this year. For health is the duty of the State, the DKP is planning its own Society is obliged to provide conditions necessary to ensure the health of its citizens... Health furthers the economic and moral strength of the community and the happiness of the citizen.

That sounds good, especially as 32.5 percent of the male population and 43 percent of the female are, the Federal Statistics Bureau claims, under regular medical treatment and can therefore be classified as sick.

People also like to hear that the State is concerned about their happiness. For the health happiness means the preservation of their health while for the sick it means speedy recovery and the best possible treatment.

At least 350,000 people in this country have cancer. The most recent official statistics show that 137,866 died in a twelve month period of what are described as malignant growths — cancer in other words.

In 1970 there were 112 hospital beds available for every 10,000 inhabitants of the Federal Republic but the situation is only numerically good. If attention is to be paid to the demands of modern medicine, hospital investment must be much higher.

Because of the time involved in drawing up reports of this type they have the disadvantage of being based on old statistics. Forecasts of how the situation is to develop up to the year 2000 have no more than a hypothetical character. But what must be done to improve the situation?

No fewer than 31 essential measures are outlined by the report and each must become law or, at the very least, a State regulation. Each must be dealt with in the Bundestag by the time the current legislative period ends in 1973.

The most important measures concern preventive medicine and the early recognition of diseases, conservation laws preventing pollution, better drug laws and food laws, a new narcotics law, an amendment to the current epidemic law and new laws for the rehabilitation of the physically or mentally sick and injured.

On top of these measures come investigations into epidemic diseases, trial preventive medicine schemes and an im-

BONN**Government publish extensive health report**

Government publish extensive health report

provement in general health information. Unfortunately the report has omitted to say which of its recommendations are most important. It is impossible to pay for them all at one go.

The government also know from experience how difficult it is to push through constitutional changes necessary for these laws. It faces hard clashes with interest groups as well as the authorities responsible for financing the hospitals.

Drug manufacturers will for instance object to any proposal to replace their own system of control for their products by State supervision.

Ahlers says that the Bureau has now attained its best possible operational size and an increase in staff is not to be recommended.

As the Bureau is faced with new responsibilities however, Ministerial Director Niebel has been commissioned to find out which activities can be pruned so that others can be extended.

The Press Bureau has also taken over the control of research commissions. It is now for instance directing a survey on communications research financed by the Bundestag and is also supplying money for an opinion poll project concerning the Institute that is meant to provide a sort of sociological early-warning system.

The visitors' service is to be centralized and there is also to be an information service along the lines of that run by the Bundestag.

The Press Bureau will also arrange for journalists to meet prominent politicians in the most important cities in the Federal Republic.

Ahlers pointed out that the Press Bureau had issued a lot of advertising material lately. He believed that the voters' need for objective information on the increase, as was their knowledge.

Central Ahlers believes that he gets on well with the Opposition firstly because of the way Christian Democrat members of the Press Bureau have been treated since the change of government and secondly because government spokesmen have obeyed Chancellor Willy Brandt's call not to become involved in controversy with the Opposition. Ahlers states that his trouble with the Social Democratic Party is also as good as over.

Johann W. Reifrauer
(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 1 April 1971)

Ahlers proposes to tighten up Press Office operations

The Federal Press and Information Bureau, a government organisation, intends to tighten up and modernise its work. State Secretary Conrad Ahlers, head of the Bureau, has announced that an inspector has been appointed to examine where the service can be pruned.

Ahlers says that the Bureau has now attained its best possible operational size and an increase in staff is not to be recommended.

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Leading parliamentarians of the three parties represented in the Bundestag are at present discussing ways to prevent the yawning gaps sometimes witnessed during sittings.

This was prompted once again by a Friday, the day in which most members of the Bundestag leave Bonn for their constituencies. At the end of a debate on the unrest in the armed forces around 2.30 pm only 34 of the 518 members were still present in the chamber.

Two Free Democrats must be given most of the blame for the near-empty chamber — Kurt Jung and Karl Moersch, the Parliamentary State Secretary to the Foreign Office.

Jung was unable to capture his audience with his ideas about a military-type army. When Moersch spoke, his Coalition partner Heribert Wehner could not understand why he was dragging out the end of the debate by providing a third government statement after Defence Minister Helmut Schmidt and Chancellor Willy Brandt had already done so.

Moersch began with Wilhelm von Humboldt's "Limits of the effectiveness of the State" and finally came to talk of Jean Paul's theory of self-consuming war, before being interrupted by Heribert Wehner.

"I must admit," Wehner said, "that Jean Paul is one of my favourite writers, but why may I ask, are you making other people suffer by telling them this here so late in the day?"

The presidium is considering having Bundestag debates from nine o'clock in the morning until one in the afternoon on Wednesdays and Thursdays followed by question time until one o'clock and committee work from three o'clock onwards.

Debates would then last from nine to twelve on Friday mornings, followed by question time until one o'clock in the afternoon. After one o'clock members would no longer be required to attend.

On Wednesdays and Thursdays the midday break from two to three o'clock could be used for urgent debates if need be.

At present the Bundestag is normally in session all day Wednesday and until the early afternoon on Fridays. Thursdays are set aside for committee work.

Proposals for morning debates were rejected two years ago by the chairman of some committees who said that more could be done in one whole day of work than in two half-days.

This time the proposal could be rejected by the Opposition which might see in this move an attempt to curtail its right to present itself to the public via the Bundestag.

The Bundestag doctor has also entered the discussion with a serious warning about the state of health of many Bundestag members. There were three fatal heart attacks this winter and two cases of circulatory disturbances are at present under hospital treatment.

Rudolf Strachan
(DIE WELT, 31 March 1971)

■ THE STAGE

New Rainer Fassbinder play premiered in Nuremberg

There are few formal elements in Rainer Werner Fassbinder's new play *Blut am Hals der Katze* which has just had its premiere in Nuremberg.

Fassbinder has taken a few quotations made by famous people such as Goethe, Galileo Galilei and, as a special concession to Nuremberg's Dürer Year, Albrecht Dürer, and moulded them into a series of unconnected scenes.

The few dozen or so scenes develop through three stages. First there is the characterising monologue, then the dialogue about the pointlessness of everything on Earth and finally a mosaic of voices complaining about the desperate emptiness of life.

Fassbinder has also added banal commentaries to a few of these scenes in recitative style. He turns the play into a kaleidoscope-like chain of experiences enjoyed by a comic strip figure rejoicing under the name of Phoebe Zeitgeist.

Phoebe Zeitgeist has been sent to Earth from a distant star to write a report on the democracy of the humans. But she finds her task difficult. She does not understand the language of the humans although she has learnt the words.

The obvious inability of humans, be they lovers, husbands, wives, working colleagues, teachers, vicars, prostitutes or soldiers, to use words as bridges to other humans and act so that words produce happiness forces the visitor from the distant star to conclude that the Earthman's use of words produces nothing but complexes, repression and aggression.

But there is worse to come. Phoebe

Zeitgeist falls victim to these laws of life and becomes a vampire. She sucks the blood of Earthlings and kills, kills, kills...

So much for the elements of this play with the obscure title *Blut am Hals der Katze* (*Merlyn Monroe contre les vampires*) — the rest is collage.

The play had its premiere in the Nuremberg Kemmerspiele under the joint direction of Fassbinder and Peer Raben. It was commissioned by the city as part of the Dürer Year and it was also produced by Fassbinder's Munich Anti-Theater group for television.

This fact must be mentioned as part of the somewhat threadbare stage effects of the play must be blamed on this multi-purpose production.

As the simultaneous scenery is static this leads to boredom in all the monologues about earning money, love or quarrels between husband and wife and in all the dialogue about theft, homosexuality, strikes or love.

Love appears all the time along with death, not however as part of the action but as mere examples in a decorative collage.

Perhaps the television camera will be able to bring out more effectively the personal character of these Everyman figures.

The function of Phoebe Zeitgeist in the play remains obscure because of the direction. She does not act like a person who has come from a distant star and whose curiosity turns into lack of com-

plexes, repression and aggression but like a

silent beauty who is only waiting for men to take her.

What this collage also lacks is a linking factor to give the series of scenes a peculiar linguistic or material accent though without becoming theatrical. Fassbinder himself consciously rejects any theatricality.

The language of the play is a curious mixture of platitudes, high-falutin' clichés and a sentimentality that sometimes approaches the glooms of sloppiness.

It is common to describe Fassbinder as an anti-emotional playwright but that is simply not true. His play has a certain charm because of the inhibited way he admits that young people too have a great need of emotions in our allegedly so unemotional world.

Fassbinder was wise enough to relegate his views on the connection between society and unhappiness to the programme and to exclude them from the play itself. He would otherwise have



Henna Schygulla and Rainer Werner Fassbinder in *Blut am Hals der Katze* at Nuremberg.

(Photo: dpa)

found it difficult to prove this claim.

Apart from the playwright, the

memorial plaque for Heinrich Mann, who would have been one hundred on 27 March this year is to be placed on the Buddenbrook House in Lübeck by the city senate.

Burgomaster Werner Koch announced

the proposal to place the plaque on the famous Mann house in Mengstrasse on the occasion of a reception for participants at the Heinrich Mann Congress in Lübeck.

In addition a street is to be named after the author who died in 1950 in the United States.

The "Buddenbrook House" was the birthplace not only of Heinrich Mann but also of his famous brother Thomas.

At the same time an exhibition of first editions, manuscripts in the author's own handwriting, early newspaper clipping and photographs was opened at Lübeck's Domuseum.

Dr Klaus Metthies, Chairman of the Lübeck Thomas Mann Society, voiced his regret in his opening speech that the promised manuscripts from the Deutsche Akademie der Künste in East Berlin had not arrived.

The two tales combine to form a gloomily fateful, grimly humorous Jewish-Oriental milieu. Various elements unexpectedly juxtaposed, giving the same mood and making it more potent.

The music does not help, but establishes itself, apparently completely independent, on a third level. A tiny classical orchestra conducted by Georg Schmöle throws itself euphorically into the course of the work, persists in its fragile passages, raises itself up briefly and falls silent.

The third work was being performed for the first time in this country. Mr Westergaard's *Mr and Mrs Discobolos* is a light, pleasant work that is already 4 years old.

Unlike the other works played on evening, *Mr and Mrs Discobolos* adheres to the old operatic tradition, but at the same time pokes fun at it. The numbers are sung according to the old series principle. Old forms and new formalisation are quoted and parodied.

The musical material to be found in two halves into which the series of songs are divided accentuates the text very exuberantly or excitedly and thus astonishing tonal whole; just the framework for this innocent, gay, senile story which resembles very much the miniatures of René de Obaldia.

On their way to a picnic *Mr and Mrs Discobolos* climb a wall that stands all

alone in the middle of a wilderness.

As they are unable to get down again they carry on their marriage on top of the wall make love, quarrel, raise twelve children until the idyllic life is destroyed by their own discontent.

Mr Discobolos suddenly turns angry

and blows up the wall together with his

family. He and his wife return as angels to

the gloomy wilderness of this theatrical

world to present the final duet to the audience.

This finale to the production in Kiel,

sung by Judith Turano and Martin Häfner and produced once again by Biczyski,

was played among the ruins of the wall.

Mr and Mrs Discobolos is an absurd

reminder of an absurd pastoral opera in which the scenic directions are also sung.

Peter Dannenberg

(DIE WELT, 24 March 1971)

Despite the modest budget on which he operates Joachim Klaiber has in Kiel something that Rolf Liebermann was unable to obtain for the Hamburg Staatsoper and that August Everding is now looking for for future experiments.

Since 1969 Klaiber has had an operatic studio for experimental works that do not require the vast amount of bulky, space-consuming props, scenery and technology as the usual opera.

This operatic studio, the stimulus for similar schemes in Munich and Stuttgart, has established itself in the new hexagonal student theatre on the city's university campus.

The building is well-equipped with technical apparatus and allows the production of variable forms of theatre. Though the studio is fitted with the normal proscenium type of stage, platforms can be placed in the auditorium as well.

Operating an operatic studio is not primarily a question of space but one of inner commitment. Klaiber is committed. He has been director of the Kiel opera since 1963, has worked together with conductors such as Michael Gielen, Bruno Maderna and Hans Zender, the general musical director, and produced a proud series of modern operas in their German if not world premieres. Above all he staged the first multi media experiments of Dieter Schönbach and Manfred Neuhäusler in his opera house.

Klaiber has logically pursued the course he thinks opera should take. A visit to the new studio where three works have been combined to form an evening's programme will convince a person of that...

The first opera was meant to be a new work by Peter Maxwell Davies but his score was held up during the British postal strike.

This was replaced at short notice by Roman Haubensack-Rametti's *End Game* based on Beckett's play of the same

name. As in Munich a year ago, it was produced by the Polish producer Jan Biczyski.

But the production was completely different. This time Biczyski takes up the composer's remark that the opera need not be bound to the normal stage. He places his putrefying characters in a symbolic triangle in a round arena that is surrounded on all sides by the audience.

They sit on rotating stools, barely outlined by the hellish half-light referred to in the text, are faced up and kept upright in the colourless, decayed costumes of a Baroque opera and eternally repeat their monotonous scrape of memorised material.

The fact that singer and not actors have been cast in these roles etc. Haubensack-Rametti's intentions. The human voice's wide range of expression from toneless sounds to melodic outbreaks can then be included in the performance.

The accompaniment by three percussion groups was not live in this production but was recorded beforehand and played over loudspeakers whose volume had been turned down a long way.

The second work had already been performed in Wiesbaden in 1970. Ingo

Continued on page 6

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(DIE WELT, 24 March 1971)

A scene from Roman Haubensack-Rametti's opera *End Game*.

(Photo: Henning)

■ WRITING

Heinrich Mann remains an unknown and misunderstood quantity in German literature

He came to the attention of the public at the turn of the century, that is to say, at a time when writers were up in arms and were attacking the status quo of society.

But after their "Storm and Stress" period they lost that sensitivity that made them critical of society and with age they became calm men.

But in the case of Heinrich Mann the procedure was reversed. His first novel, *In die Familie* (In a family) was written in the decadent style of the death agonies of the nineteenth century.

Modern novels are like battles for freedom fought by the people of all countries against the tyrants in their countries, against the petrified form of their society.

However, it is wrong to schematise. The German race is a people of two poles, two absolute extremes. One of its basic characteristics is the Faustian urge, metaphysical unrest.

But this search for the transcendental, was contradicted by the exaggerated pragmatism of the Wilhelminian era, spring America, the magnificent facade with nothing behind of the inflation years and finally the Third Reich and the National Socialist era.

At this time reaction to the social and political awareness went through its apogee. It was then that Heinrich Mann the fighter was born.

He fought for the idea of freedom against the feudal and militaristic vestiges of the pre-War era and against the tyrannical encroachment of big capital.

Mann fought against the crippling power of the past; he launched himself into the fray and joined attempts to rescue the German spirit and soul from the trouva that had been caused by the War.

With the seizure of power by the National Socialists this battle had to come to an end and along with so much of the flower of Germany Heinrich Mann had to go into involuntary exile.

What he wrote at the end of the Great War in his essay on Emile Zola was to be an ironic forecast of the situation that now faced him:

"He went out into a dark night, saw the lights of his fatherland go out and realised that he must now flee since he had wanted honesty and justice... It was the severest burden he lied to carry."

His unremitting articles were decried as mere vituperation and very few people, among them Kurt Tucholsky by 1919, had come to realise his true motives.

"He loved his country and vilified those who had made it into one big barracks, one big treadmill..."

Mann was an enemy of nationalism and militarism. He was a vanguard fighter for democratic socialism. He wrote:

"We must be discriminated..."

He demanded:

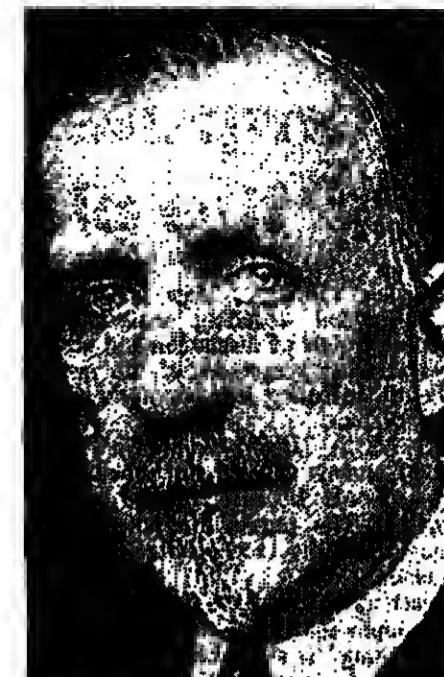
"The idea of the public must become a commonplace."

Forty-four years ago he said that Germany's historical role was to be, "middleman between the East and West." At the same time he stressed that: "It is no longer necessary to say that for Europe the most important part in international affairs is unfriendly."

Do we believe the prophecy of Heinrich's brother? "Yes, I am convinced that German school textbooks in the twenty-first century will contain extracts from this book (*Ein Zeitalter wird bestreift* — looking at an era) as being exemplary."

"For the fact that this late author was one of the greatest in the German language will in the short or long-run overcome the reluctant awareness of this German possession."

Andre von Szekely
(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 26 March 1971)



Heinrich Mann

(Photo: dpa)

Ulrich boosts today and immediately switches to attack:

"We would doubtless be underestimating the campaigners... of German Imperialism, and criminally, if we were not prepared for the eventualities of their attempt, sure to come, to claim sole representation for Heinrich Mann and to falsify what he wrote, throwing an anti-Communist light upon it and beating it up into something offensive."

This complaint is unwarranted. Ulrich's anxiety is unmotivated, but it certainly does sound like an attempt on the part of the German Democratic Republic's leader to justify himself.

Heinrich Mann wrote: "Cooperation between the intellectuals and the proletariat is the only sensible attitude. But he added by way of explanation: "Violence is strong, but goodness is even stronger."

At the age of seventy-five, a purged and purified man, he remarked: "All I know of his works that sometimes survive. Of the battles I watched and fought in nothing has remained."

Walter Ul

EDUCATION

Computers move into the classroom

Teacher shortages, large classes and antiquated teaching methods are common points of discussion and are the most striking symptoms of the malaise presently affecting this country's educational system.

In North Rhine-Westphalia alone 39,000 lessons a week are cancelled at high schools because of the teacher shortage. The pupils are not learning enough and the teachers face excessive demands.

Teachers do not have the time to give their pupils individual treatment. "Frontal teaching" is still the most common educational practice. Teachers present their material in lecture form without being able to check whether they have put it over clearly and successfully. Their pupils remain passive.

Computer teaching programmes on the other hand are tuned to the learning speed of the individual pupil. The curriculum is divided into logical, consecutive sections.

Pupils only go on to the next section after completing and understanding the previous one. Test questions prevent any cheating.

Cribbing is unnecessary. The programmes are arranged in such a way that pupils reach the end of a course at a speed commensurate with their ability. Fast learners quickly complete the programme while slower pupils are allowed to take their time.

The computer programmes do not discourage pupils. They are patient, unbiased and repeat the lesson until it is learnt. They do not punish the pupil for a wrong answer but encourage him to try again.

They ask intermediate questions and vary the pattern of questions leading the pupil to the right conclusions. As the programmes can be systematically planned each pupil is guaranteed tailor-made information.

New teaching systems of this kind free teachers from routine work. The computer programme provides the information that they would otherwise have to supply.

Teachers are therefore given time to carry out their true educational function as advisers and helpers who supplement the curriculum, point out problems and work out the answers. A single teacher can take a number of groups of pupils at the same time.

Programmed learning is not necessarily dependent on computers. Teaching programmes only represent a special sort of educational method. Even the traditional

textbook can be arranged in programmed fashion.

Teaching machines that store lessons on paper rolls or film strips are a step forward technologically. Pupils have to press a button to show whether they have found the right answer to a question. The machine then allows them to go on to the next task at hand. If this had been a book programme the pupil would have turned over a page.

But the most perfect teaching machines are computers. Linked with slide or film projectors and a tape recorder they are the best private tutors imaginable.

The advantages are obvious. Learning becomes more individual and more effective and the time taken becomes shorter, as tests have shown. More people can learn more things. That means that educational opportunities become more democratic and more people are allowed access to education.

But schools and other public institutions such as adult education centres have only been able to dream of using such teaching systems up to now. There are isolated experiments here and there but these are exceptions.

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An eight-year-old using a computer to do his geography lessons

Critical children

Schoolchildren should read and critically appraise newspaper articles, announcements of marriage and advertisements as well as classical or modern literature, the language and Politics Working Party recommended at the end of a five day conference in Bremen.

Dr Dieter Schmidt-Sims of the Central Office for Political Education, the body that set up the working party, stated that the results arising from the conference would be published at the end of the year and sent to all secondary schools.

Speaking to more than sixty educationalists and delegates from the various Ministries of Education, Dr Schmidt-Sims said that schoolchildren should be taught to think critically.

(Kölner Nachrichten, 15 March 1971)

Art appreciation

A publication has been produced in Cologne to aid teachers, visiting museums with school groups, to explain the museum exhibits to young children so that they can learn to appreciate the artistic merit of what they see.

(Photo: Keystones)

The Industry's most spectacular product at present is the cassette which is basically no more than a practical film store that can be easily used at any time. When it is ready for sale it will be an important learning method for anyone wishing to have private further education independently of schools. The cassette allows study at home and does not bind a pupil to fixed hours as courses in evening school, at university or on television would.

However it would not be in the public interest to leave the planning and development of cassettes and similar modern educational aids to private industry alone. Schools must express their demands and their hopes more clearly than they have up to now. State education ministers have indeed set up a joint committee with the government in Bonn to examine primarily innovations in the field of educational technology but its jurisdiction is limited. There are no binding criteria or guidelines. There is no overall conception of education.

The centres of educational technology (one was recently opened in Kassel and another is planned for North Rhine-Westphalia) will have to carry out pioneer work for the schools and other educational institutions.

The first experiments in this direction have been made in Cologne. Some fifty mathematics teachers have sacrificed three free afternoons to attend a course acquainting them with the use of computers in mathematics teaching.

The invitations were issued by a firm of manufacturers that has organised courses of this type in nine other cities in North Rhine-Westphalia in the first half of March. The education authorities of the Federal state recommended attendance.

The course introduced teachers to data-processing and computer programming by using examples that might crop up in practice in class.

After three afternoons the teachers learnt the computer language and were able to draw up their own programs and feed them to the computer. The enthusiasm grew hourly so a start had been made at least.

It must finally be pointed out that everything in the learning process can be programmed. A combination of text and computer will always be used from an educational point of view. Learning, you see, does not mean conditioning people. Learning means gaining knowledge, recognising contradictions and changing behaviour.

Programmes are of benefit when all women prisoners were disfigured or deformed in some way, a figure about three times as high as the non-criminal average.

Usually twenty per cent of these

H. Märtzschelme

(Kölnische Stadt-Anzeiger, 25 March 1971)

MEDICINE

Stuttgart doctor claims to have anti-heart attack pill

A Stuttgart doctor claims that potential heart sufferers need only take a small pill perhaps once or twice a day to be out of all danger and he puts forward impressive figures from his practice as proof.

But why does he not publish his findings in a medical journal? Why does he not allow his successes to be checked according to modern scientific criteria?

In the modern world diseases of the heart and circulation form the most frequent causes of death, taking over the place occupied by plague and cholera in the Middle Ages and the scourge of rickets and tuberculosis at the dawn of the industrial era.

The number of people dying of heart or circulatory complaints has doubled in the last thirty years.

But these statistics are deceptive. One factor should be taken into account. As

the number of people dying of heart or circulatory complaints has doubled in the last thirty years.

Despite this fact, it would have been rare thirty or forty years ago for a thirty-year-old to die of a heart attack.

Successful cornea transplants

B **Bind** people can once again take hope — cornea transplants have proved

successfully the individual pupil's worth in restoring sight and more operations of this type are being carried out.

Some illnesses, such as formation after accidents and direct contact with tear gas often cause lasting damage to the cornea, thus impairing sight.

Professor Sauer of Hamburg University Eye Hospital stated that the foreign corneas were only rarely rejected after operations of this kind.

To explain the effects of his strophantidin

Doctors today are no longer surprised when this happens to one of their patients.

The increase in heart disease has also led to the search for preventive methods and cures being intensified. This is made more difficult by the fact that these complaints often have more than one cause, unlike infectious diseases.

Even when preventive or curative methods are available, it is not all that simple to treat diseases whose cause or causes are not known or only partially recognised.

That is why nobody is surprised when cures are announced in more or less quick succession, based on more or less plausible theories concerning the origins and curative possibilities of modern diseases, only to disappear again with equal rapidity.

Dr Berthold Kern, a Stuttgart internist, claims to have discovered during his near

on 25 years of practice that a medicament long known and used to cure

defects of the heart muscles is also effective when used to prevent heart infarction.

It was this inadequacy in the statistics, not to say their unreliability, that probably stopped Dr Kern contributing a report to one of the reputable medical journals or cooperating with Professor Halhuber, the heart specialist.

Professor Halhuber is the head of a heart sanatorium at Höhenried that is well-known even outside the Federal Republic for helping heart patients to recuperate.

He offered to cooperate closely with Dr Kern if he would only state his readiness to carry out his examinations and complete their results according to strict medical criteria.

This cooperation never materialised, leading Dr Kern to complain that the medical profession had treated him like a poor simpleton.

Professor Donat, the Hamburg cardiologist, now plants to test Dr Kern's results to see what conditions are necessary for an objective study.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 20 March 1971)

tin treatment, Dr Kern had to put forward a completely new theory opposing those currently valid in the world on nearly all counts.

Dr Kern states that heart attacks are not caused by a clot in the coronary artery but by an insufficient blood supply to the inner wall of one of the sides of the heart.

None of the recognised medical textbooks on heart disease remotely suggests that this could be the case. And it can hardly be credited that medical research throughout the world has conspired against Dr Kern and his theory.

Experts describe the proof put forward by Dr Kern for his theory as threadbare and become even more sceptical on hearing his statistics.

Dr Kern claims to have treated seventeen thousand top-risk patients over the past 24 years, that patients threatened by a heart attack or the repetition of a previous one, and never had a patient dying of infarction.

Even American hospitals with all the statistical methods and personnel at their disposal would find it hard to keep their tabs on 17,000 patients over a period of years.

A doctor or team of doctors who have to work without the superior research facilities of a large hospital and yet come up with such impressive statistics must sound incredible.

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(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 20 March 1971)

Cannibal experiments give indication of learning patterns

A furore was caused a few years ago by experiments in which flatworms that had been trained in some particular way under laboratory conditions transferred their learning to other, untrained flatworms when fed to them.

Researchers such as McConnell, an American, or Hydén, a Swede, believed that these experiments proved that specific memory content could be transferred with a creature's nerve substance.

Psychologist Kurt Pawlik of Hamburg University now claims that his own tests disprove the results of these earlier controversial experiments.

Pawlik too trained flatworms. These inch-long creatures live in water and contract when irritated by an electric shock. This reaction can also be provoked after a certain training period by stimuli that would not normally cause contraction.

If a light flashes immediately before the electric shock is applied, the creatures gradually learn the significance of this occurrence and contract even if no electric shock follows.

Psychologists at Hamburg have not only trained flatworms to react to flashes of light but have also taught them to find their way through a maze.

Pawlik too fed the trained worms to untrained worms. He found that it was impossible when tasks the worm used as food had previously learnt. The main thing was that it had been trained.

The flatworms fed with trained worms then showed a clearly better performance than those that had ate only untrained worms.

Pawlik explains why this is. Learning — irrespective of what is learnt — raises the worm's general activation level. Its substance is now taken from the trained worm and transferred to other worms, this also means that there is a transfer of the chemical substance that are released when the organism is more active.

This means that the worms thus fed are now in their turn made more active and can be trained more easily and more quickly.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 26 March 1971)

Experts discuss uses and abuses of cosmetics

During the past twelve months Hamburg dermatologist Professor Gustav Hopf, the initiator and president of the Karlsruhe Cosmetics Congress, has succeeded in giving cosmetics a scientific character. The second congress of this type ended on 22 March and showed that opinions on the function of cosmetics still differ widely.

Christa Lüders-Lohde, the Hamburg journalist and cosmetics expert and a driving force behind the Karlsruhe congress, was unwilling to accept this interpretation as it was, she claimed, typically male.

She had obviously not heard the remark Professor de Boor had made to guard against the opposition he expected. The Professor had asked what psychological basis made men refuse to wear eye-shadow and lipstick while they rejoiced in fencing scars, to which a sexual function could also be doubtlessly ascribed.

Women, Christa Lüders-Lohde countered, wanted primarily to be in harmony with themselves and, putting it concisely, to feel good: "Cosmetics express the need for dignified conformity to the world of civilisation."

Which view is right? Has cosmetics a signal function or is it used irrespectively of the signal function of cosmetics? A partial answer was provided by Professor G. Stütgen, the Berlin dermatologist, who could not resist

crossing swords with the argumentative Christa Lüders-Lohde once again.

Professor Stütgen insisted on the signal function of cosmetics and helped the cause of his colleague Professor de Boor with a remark that met with the enthusiastic approval of the audience.

What, he asked, is the position concerning male cosmetics? What opportunity had men had to do something for their "beauty" after years of the Labour Front, national service during the War, Internment and the poverty of the immediate post-war period? And had not our women always maliciously smiled whenever they came across a male who used cosmetics of any type?

Stütgen said that cosmetics largely determined a person's social image today. There could be no doubt about that. Long hair and dirty fingernails were nothing other than a type of anti-cosmetics.

The Professor felt he had to attack women for caring for themselves with cosmetics at the same time as they ruined their skin with excessive sun-bathing.

Professor Hopf agreed. He described suntan as the most dangerous moda of decoration and drew the unchivalrous thought nonetheless: correct conclusion that, unlike the smooth-skinned girls of the past, women today often look like old Red Indian squaws with spots and blemishes caused by too much sunlight.

Alfred Pillemann

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 24 March 1971)

■ AGRICULTURE

Higher farm prices make rich richer, poor poorer

Presumably all farmers in the Federal Republic will be pleased about the rise in European Economic Community prices for agricultural produce even though their demands have only been half met.

In fact only a section of the farming community has grounds for feeling cheerful about the latest developments. These are the diligent farmers who more or less have their holdings in good order, es- always, and have been making in good profits.

These profits have now been supplemented by the Council of Ministers in Brussels. This will enable them to continue to build up an adequate capital backlog so that they will be able to continue to make essential investments. This in turn will strengthen their competitiveness and they will continue to open up a huge gap between themselves and the less fortunate members of their profession.

Despair grew when the precariousness of the situation could no longer be hidden behind a veil. Thereafter the farmers attempted to pin the blame for the poor situation on those very factors that had brought the bitter truth home to them, rather than looking for the faults in themselves and in the internal conditions of their farms.

They then let off steam at a series of heated demonstrations. Demands for higher agricultural prices seemed to be getting even worse. Those that are not particularly indebted at the moment will find themselves up to their eyes in debt.

But however understandable this reaction and this demand may be, the price rises that have been ordered from Brussels are doing nothing to improve the internal faults in this branch of the economy and so bleeding the holding.

Sicco Mansholt was both victor and vanquished. Likewise Josef Ertl. Listening to both of them talk at the end of a long night in Brussels each had helped the other beat down his own arguments and push his own ideas to victorious acceptance!

Immediately after the decision taken by the Council of Ministers that in future there would be a communal agricultural policy it is difficult to form an opinion on the results of this mammoth session.

First of all there are the decisions taken with regard to farm-produce prices. No one is exactly bold enough to believe that this decision will completely satisfy farmers throughout Europe.

An average increase of - at best - four per cent is certainly not what farmers were hoping to achieve by their demonstrations in recent weeks. On the other hand it should not be forgotten that a mere matter of a year ago no one concerned with making agricultural policy decisions even dared to mention price increases.

The butter, corn and sugar mountains were an uncomfortable backdrop on the agricultural policy scene. Meantime there have been successful measures implemented to cut down these farm-produce surpluses.

Nevertheless the dangers have not been banished. As far as butter is concerned over-production to the tune of 135,000 tons is expected. In the case of corn the prospects are even grimmer on account of the considerable reserves.

Only in the case of sugar is it relatively simple to limit the financial risks of the communal agricultural policy, since sugar prices are only guaranteed for firmly fixed quantities.

The Council of Ministers has decided to adjust these guaranteed quantities which

One other reason that frequently leads to inefficiency or failure down on the farm is that the farmer is often not a mathematician and makes grave miscalculations, or that he is not a businessman and has little idea of how a going concern is run.

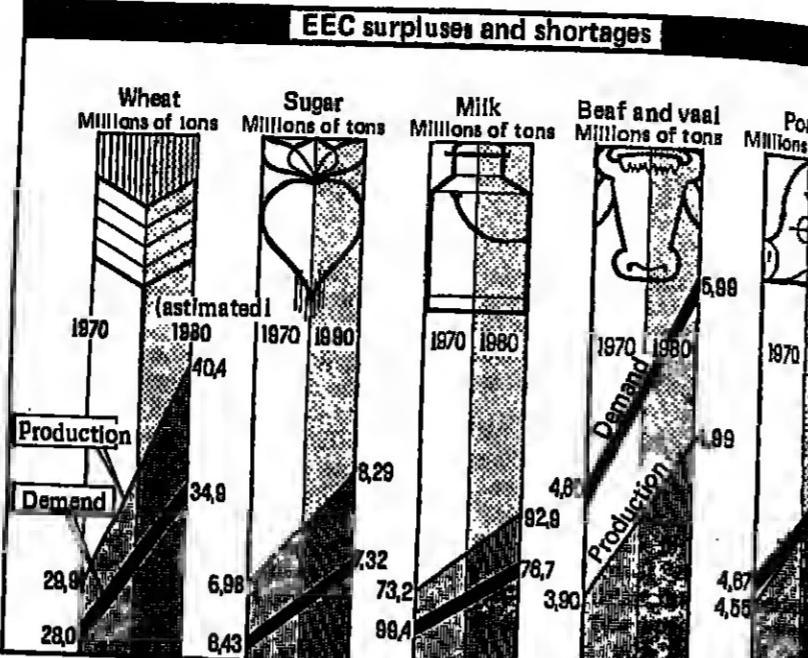
Many of these farmers have to muddle through. But this fact has unfortunately filled them with false hopes. They thought that because their guardian angels had seen them through in the past they would continue to do so in the future.

But these hopes have been crushed recently as costs have soared and (because of agricultural overproduction) prices for farm produce have tumbled or at best stagnated. Increasing competition within the European Economic Community has begun to make these cracks in the structure visible.

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They then let off steam at a series of heated demonstrations. Demands for higher agricultural prices seemed to be getting even worse. Those that are not particularly indebted at the moment will find themselves up to their eyes in debt.

Farmers are at present groaning under the weight of interest repayments that have been ordered from Brussels. Many will have to sell their farms, but even then when they have paid



would not have been doing so even if they had been more generous.

They are sufficient simply to give the farmers time to get their breath because they cover up the troubles, but the danger is that they will give farmers the impression once again that everything is all right and will lull them into a false sense of security.

In reality, however, the "bad" farms are still lagging way behind the "good" ones. The sick establishments are getting sicker and are making themselves more and more susceptible to uncontrollable outside influences such as increasing costs or falling prices.

In this way their precarious position is getting even worse. Those that are not particularly indebted at the moment will find themselves up to their eyes in debt.

Farmers are at present groaning under the weight of interest repayments that have been ordered from Brussels. Many will have to sell their farms, but even then when they have paid

their debts they will have nothing to live on.

As far as the "bad" farms are concerned higher agricultural prices should be given to them. Young Socialists in the SPD are tending to their death, when it comes, increasingly to criticise the terror of the holding is disappearing from the market which is continually creating new difficulties for the farmer and another is far greater possession bit by bit until the farmer's milkpail belongs to creditors. In fact the farmer and his family will benefit from the AGV highly effective.

The loss gullible farmers will be back and pondered the mystery of the differences in income between the farmer and another are far greater between agriculture and other branches of the economy and that these differences are increasing year by year.

Recently increased prices for agricultural produce will only aggravate differences. The much-scorned economist Hermann Prien — basically the same people — shifted on the question of how the extra money should be spent is well-nigh impossible.

An increase in agricultural prices

Continued on page 12

Even Johannes M. Jaschicke, spokesman for the committee of the "working group of consumer associations", who cannot be suspected of harbouring leftish notions, complains quite openly: "In the face of the twenty million budget of the economy we consumers are powerless."

The fact that this country's consumers are in such a weak position comes from their complete lack of organisation.

Working people band together to get improvements in pay, but to get consumers — basically the same people — shifted on the question of how the extra money should be spent is well-nigh impossible.

Her Jaschicke said: "When it comes to wages every Pfennig is taken into account, but as far as spending is concerned this careful attitude disappears."

Up until now the government and political parties have done nothing much to organise consumers effectively. Bonn does finance a number of associations claiming to represent the interests of the consumer, but the money donated by Bonn is limited and is spread out over a wide area.

In addition to this the government and political parties have done nothing much to organise consumers effectively. Bonn does finance a number of associations claiming to represent the interests of the consumer, but the money donated by Bonn is limited and is spread out over a wide area.

While the government spends 57 million Marks on advertising in favour of this country's agriculture it considers the interests of the consumer worth a mere 25 per cent of costs; the rest goes to the drummed up by the individual State.

For what is probably the most expensive measure, paying pensions of 2000 Marks to pensioners, the money is given to twenty different organisations, the most important of which are:

Die Arbeitsgemeinschaft Hauswirtschaft (Household Budgeting) in Bonn which receives 73,000 Marks,

Five women's associations (299,000 Marks)

The eleven consumer offices in the Federal States (1,569,000 Marks)

Stiftung Werentest in Berlin with its magazine *Tast* with a circulation of 10,000 (4.5 million Marks)

The working group of consumer associations (AGV) which receives 430,000 Marks.

Other associations with as little importance as, for example, "the Society of Female White-Collar Workers".

A further splintering of consumer associations has been brought about by the financial sphere as well —

of the eleven Federal state offices which recently founded a nation-wide office in Bonn. The point of this is to coordinate advice to consumers in the Federal states.

Thomas Löffelholz
(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 27 March)

Communal agricultural prices have strengthened the EEC

In the past were higher than the level of consumption so that they will equal it — that is to say the guaranteed quantities will be lowered.

Some anxiety must be shown about the increase of six per cent in milk prices particularly as this will be brought about partly by increases in the price of butter. Individual Agriculture Ministers also showed concern that this decision might lead to the production of even greater surpluses.

Certainly we are not likely to be faced with many more formidable butter mountains. Meantime we have learned how butter can be used in development aid and social welfare programmes, how it can be applied as cooking fat and also in dairy products, how it can be used as feed for calves without great gains although at rather daunting costs.

Perhaps the rigours of milk production (no day off, no holidays — cows having to be looked after 365 days a year) will lead to a natural cutback in milk production.

Less problems are involved in the six per cent increases in beef and three per cent increase in veal prices since there is a genuine lack of these meats within the Common Market.

More problems are posed by the situation on the grain market where the guaranteed price of corn is up by two per cent, barley by four per cent and maize only by one per cent. It is almost certain that processing companies will turn their

distortions in cooperative ability which would finally lead to a softening up in the long run of the communal

THE ECONOMY

Helping the consumer spend wisely is a complicated business

The first task carried out by this organisation was to penetrate into the Chancellery where the consumer representatives sought a discussion with Willy Brandt.

One curiosity that has cropped up: At the consumer headquarters in the Federal states as well as in the liaison office those associations that are already members of the monopolies commission, thanks to the AGV.

In other spheres too the AGV has been able to boast of successes. Exports from the AGV helped to bring about quality markings on textiles, which give the purchaser a better idea of how good the material he is buying really is.

They have also worked on the jungle of confusion surrounding timed foods. Nowadays housewives have a far better idea of what they will find inside when they open a can, and price controls of timed foods have been introduced.

Gerhard Rambow said: "It is hard to imagine the likes of Ralph Nader in this country at the moment."

membership and receive in return legal backing and a 500-Mark grant if they take legal proceedings. His success really hangs on another line of business. He offers his members cheap flights to America.

Hugo Schul knows what other consumer associations are having to learn: "Everyone who pays the six-Mark subscription is out to ensure he gets at least ten Marks value from it!"

There have not yet been any spectacular breakthroughs for the consumer in this country to compare with those achieved by Ralph Nader, the pioneer of consumer protection in the United States. Nader succeeded in forcing the three major manufacturers of detergents to refrain from using harmful ingredients in their products. It is difficult to imagine anything of this kind in the Federal Republic.

The Economic Affairs Ministry in Bonn is aiming at cooperation between the new liaison offices and the AGV, but government representative Gerhard Rambow is of the opinion that the associations must work out among themselves at the outset.

The Economic Affairs Ministry in Bonn also organised a lobby on the reform of legislation pertaining to the sale of foodstuffs. The former business manager of the AGV, Helga Merkl, helped State-Secretary Philip Rosenthal of the Economic Affairs Ministry confided to the AGV: "Bonn considers the work of the AGV highly effective."

A former Ministry of Food worker Hugo Schul is also working on consumer protection in Bonn. He operates a one-man bureau, Der deutsche Verbraucherbund, with 50,000 individual members. Schul calls himself the only representative of the consumer who works independently of government funds. He publishes the magazine, *Der Wecker* (Alarm Clock) which attempts to get people in this country to wake up from their dreamy attitude to buying.

He has attacked the government and the Bundestag and started proceedings against firms, which his members feel are guilty of exploitation. He has uncovered price manipulations in major firms and generally sets the cat among the pigeons.

His clients pay six Marks per year for

in fact consumers here must be worried that their position will weaken. Proof of this comes from the textile markings legislation. This legislation which favours the consumer has not been put into operation yet, since a unified measure for all EEC countries is being drawn up in Brussels.

As far as Brussels is concerned the European consumer associations are scarcely represented at all and, according to Johannes M. Jaschicke, "our influence there is nil."

There is a fear that in the future people buying textiles in Europe will have no idea what their money is going on. Brussels is planning to introduce twenty different markings which will completely hamper the consumer.

The Economic Affairs Ministry is considering various consumer protection measures such as a "consumer ombudsman". Wolfgang Hoffmann

(DIE ZEIT, 26 March 1971)

consideration. There are plans afoot to counter this with regional development programmes encouraging companies to set up shop in less densely populated areas. These companies have a ready labour force of former farm workers.

There are already two million foreign workers in the Federal Republic and many plan to remain in this country for a lengthy period. Families are coming to join the workers.

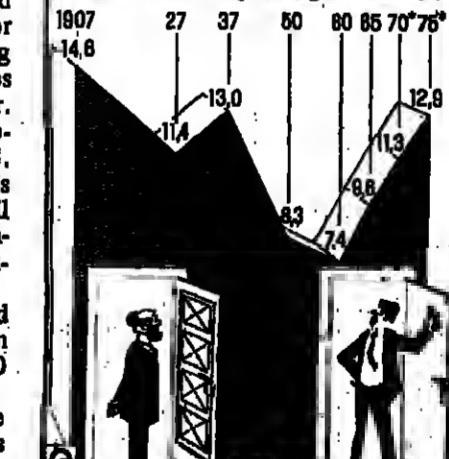
There is every indication that the building trade will have full order books for quite some time. The problem of costs and prices in the industry remains, although this is not directly connected with the demand for accommodation.

In conjunction with the Federal states Bonn provides 250,000 houses under the social welfare housing scheme every year. Projects for young families, old folks with low incomes and large families are top priority in this programme. By 1975 Bonn will be providing more than two billion Marks for the housing programme.

Of the 65,000 firms in the Federal Republic building trade 19,000 employ fewer than five workers. Forty per cent of building prices today is accounted for in wage bills. The overall average for the economy is only 23 per cent. Smaller firms must cooperate. Only then will they be able to afford expensive machinery which will quickly cut their wage bills.

Comparative studies have shown that industrial prefabrication carried out by highly mechanised firms can make a project 15 per cent cheaper than if it is carried out along conventional lines by one of the small companies.

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 24 March 1971)

Facts and figures in the building trade**Rent patterns**

Styles of living for the 61 million people in the Federal Republic are changing daily. More and more young people are taking longer to qualify for their chosen profession and during their study or apprenticeship periods want to escape from Mum's spron strings. This means that without the population increasing the need for new accommodation rises, particularly the need for small flats.

In addition to this the move from rural areas to towns has to be taken into



AUTOMOBILES**Steel still superior to synthetics, Volkswagen director maintains****Frankfurter Allgemeine**

To judge by a lecture delivered at the thirteenth plastics conference in Mainz by Professor Werner Holste, head of research and development at Volkswagen, it is doubtful whether plastics will bring about fundamental changes in the motor car in the near future.

Dr Holste concedes that synthetics have an important part to play in the extremely varied and up-to-the-minute field of materials applications in the motor industry but feels that the future holds more in store for synthetics in sectors other than the motor trade.

He prefers to use the term materials rather than synthetics in respect of his own field of operations, and when it is borne in mind that between them the engine and chassis, both of which are mainly metal, account for some 56 per cent of the overall weight of a car the limits on the use of synthetics are evident.

Synthetics play a subordinate role in the propulsion and chassis units. They are of greater importance in the electrical and instrumental systems but even in these spheres their use is not characteristic of the motor car.

The proportion of a car in terms of overall weight that is made up of synthetic materials is still small, amounting to a mere four to six per cent. Over the forthcoming decade Dr Holste expects this amount to increase to no more than ten per cent, from 35 to forty kilograms per car.

The introduction of various materials, including synthetics, will represent a continuous development from the existing situation with a view to economy and reliability in operation and economy of manufacture, long-term cost developments deciding which of competing materials is to be used.

Extra-strong materials in the form of fibre-toughened compounds of various kinds will also have a major role to play in the future of motor vehicle construction.

Continued from page 10

Prices of ten per cent would bring those farms that are not making a go of it an increase in income per capita of the workers of about 2,000 Marks per annum. Farm-workers at productive profitable concerns would find themselves 5,000 Marks a year better off. So, we can see immediately the injustice of increased prices for farm produce.

In no other branch of the economy is the division of wealth as expressed in incomes so unjust as in agriculture. But, according to Herr Priebe, "nowhere else is State aid given in virtually inverse proportion to need to quite the same extent as in farming."

Now the State is making this unjust balance of incomes even less just. Higher agricultural prices make the poorer farmer even poorer, while those who were thriving anyway get fatter on the proceeds.

Hermann Priebe has said: "These disparities are really a cause for cries of alarm on agriculture policies and everything must be done to give support to those farmers whose incomes are low."

"Precisely the opposite is happening."

Hair crystals — whiskers — have the reputation of being something out of the ordinary, and no doubt rightly so in respect of price, flexibility and durability.

In view of the price, though, efforts will obviously first be made to meet requirements with the aid of synthetic compounds toughened by glass, borium or carbon fibre, all highly developed but greater in diameter and less tough than whiskers.

The future may well belong to polycrystalline whiskers, though. In addition to their other properties they are sufficiently heat-resistant to be embedded in the metal matrix.

It could, in the foreseeable future, prove possible to incorporate appropriate whiskers into light-weight metals such as magnesium or aluminium so as to improve the properties, particularly the heat-resistance, of these major materials.

Such use as is made of plastics in car bodywork at present is conspicuous enough. Nowadays roughly three quarters of the visible interior is coated with PVC, which has for the most part taken over from fabric, felt, rubber and glass.

The difficulties encountered in the manufacture of plastic car bodies have yet to be satisfactorily solved, though. All-steel bodies so far seem likely to be able to meet the requirements that are looming on the horizon.

Car designers and materials manufacturers will have to put their heads together and spend even more time on the development of suitable energy-absorptive materials and structures that give satisfactory results even when the process of deformation takes only split seconds.

Viewed from the angle of society and the law the car of the near future will definitely tend to contribute towards increased safety and environmental protection.

In respect of environmental protection the atmospheric pollution caused by car exhausts is the main offender. The clean exhaust regulations will make additional engine units necessary. These will require, to a greater extent than their predecessors, higher-quality materials, particularly high-alloy steels, and introduce new materials into car production.

Cars that conform with stricter specifications will, of course, cost more.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 31 March 1971)

Higher farm-produce prices

For years agriculture prices policies in this country have been to the benefit of the richer farmer."

To Herr Priebe's comment we must add: the European Economic Community has done nothing but aggravate this situation.

Higher prices for agricultural produce will not only give a boost to the more well-to-do farmer in the Federal Republic, but also to our rivals in the other Common Market countries, who are less affected by the question of prices for their produce than their colleagues in this country.

And despite all arguments to the contrary the problem of surpluses is a growing one. Stockpiles are still being built up and along with them come diminishing hopes that prices will rise naturally and of their own accord.

Furthermore farmers have cut their own throats in one respect: they asked for higher prices for cattle feed. Having

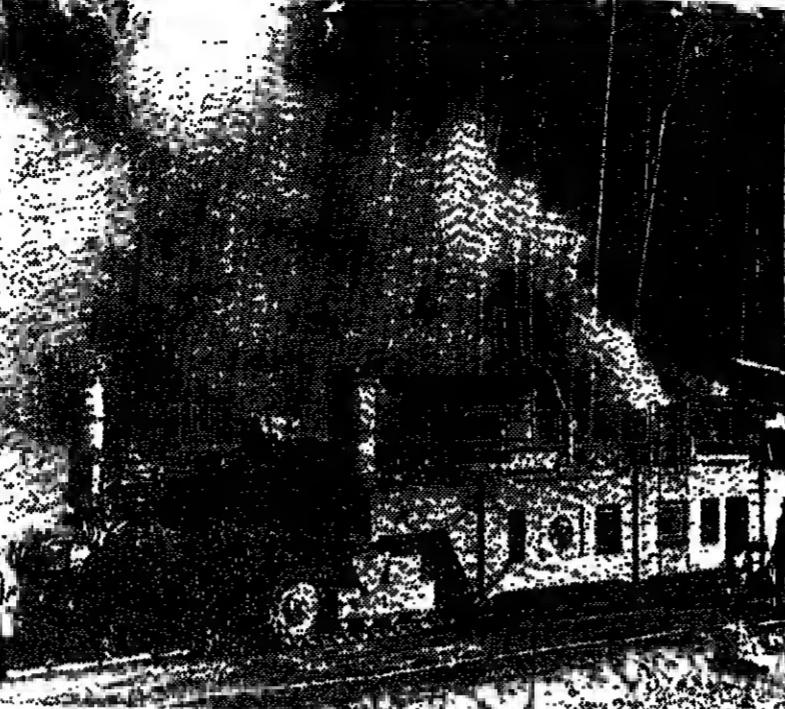
got them they have immediately pushed up their costs! They can hardly pass on these expenses in the form of higher prices as is the case with egg production, poultry and fattening pigs.

Brussels has made a mistake in its decision to grant farmers higher prices.

Farmers, and particularly farmers in this country, will get little benefit from higher prices. The damage that has been done cannot be made good by the decision to embark on a communal structural policy (which is in reality far more like an EEC financial adjustment in favour of Italy).

All assurances and ideas to the contrary are a deliberate veiling of the facts; it is just like sweeping the dirt under the carpet, glossing over the faults, practising self-deception or simply a failure to pay any regard to the facts.

Klaus Peter Krause
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 29 March 1971)

**Quick road-building**

Equipment to speed up autobahn construction has been designed in the Federal Republic. By this method a stretch of 3.5 kilometres can be completed within working hours. The equipment has the trademark 'Wibau' and can lay four metres wide in total.

All-steel bodies and they alone, Dr Holste stresses, so far seem likely to be able to meet the requirements that are looming on the horizon.

The difficulties encountered in the manufacture of plastic car bodies have yet to be satisfactorily solved, though. All-steel bodies so far remain superior.

A number of manufacturers, Mercedes with the C 111, Porsche with the 917 and Metra with the M 530, for instance, may market uncommon models with synthetic car bodies but there has yet to be a long

run.

The corrosion-proneness of car-body steel unfortunately remains a problem, which is no doubt why a great deal of development work is being put into synthetics to replace it.

At the moment, however, there is no getting away from the fact that there are limits to the physical properties of plastic. What is more, the safety case towards which we are legislating will call for a maximum in passenger protection.

In the event of a crash or collision the brunt of the impact will have to be borne by the car body, which will have to fulfil entirely new requirements in toughness, absorption of impact energy and deformation properties.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 31 March 1971)

ENVIRONMENT**Mannheim proposes plan to warn of smog menace**

The smog danger is steadily increasing, making it imperative that protection be given to people living in densely populated industrial areas.

Now that North Rhine-Westphalia has made a start with inspection and precautionary procedures in the Ruhr the Baden-Württemberg Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare has decided to draft a smog alarm plan for the Mannheim district region.

The Mannheim area is particularly smog-prone because of both its geographical location and the number of major chemicals manufacturers based in the region.

Area geographically shielded from powerful gusts of wind are particularly smog-prone when a layer of cold air at and above ground-level is covered by a layer of warm air.

The normal exchange of air does not occur and air polluted by industry, motor vehicles and other consumers is not replaced by clean air from elsewhere. When this situation arises Mannheim runs a serious risk of chocking in its own dirt and atmospheric garbage.

Sulphur dioxide is the crucial health hazard. It is poisonous and combines with the damp in the air to form a sulphurous acid that eats away even stone and masonry, as the sorry state many ancient monuments are now in clearly proves.

These factors combine to make the Mannheim and Ludwigshafen region a potential killer. They are the geographical trough position, which often results in

Domestic motor manufacturers

assembly lines are working at full

and the 17,000-odd units that repre-

sent them per day represent an immea-

lable increase over the figure a year ago.

Volkswagen, Opel and Ford, the three, continued to maintain their predominant position in terms of sales (excluding estate cars) but share of the home market has slightly.

Last year these three major manu-

facturers accounted for 63 per

cent of home sales between them, a 20 per cent less than the year before.

As other domestic manufacturers also unable to boost sales mostly winners in the sales stakes were again the foreigners, whose share of market increased from slightly less than 23 per cent to over twenty-four.

Volkswagen continue to be the largest firm on the market, accounting for nearly thirty per cent of sales, saloon sales slumped slightly to 21 per cent, as against 23 per cent the year before but the difference was made Audi-NSU with more than eight per cent of the market.

With sales accounting for less than per cent of the total VW Ford is not yet a major market contender.

Opel are runners-up, having boosted sales to nineteen per cent of total, whereas Ford, in third place 10 per cent, have sustained sales losses.

Daimler-Benz and BMW remained

virtually unchanged at 7.6 and 4.5 per

respectively.

Among the imports Renault have

over the lead, boosting sales by

one per cent of the overall total

holding a 7.5-per-cent share of

market. Fiat sales have declined by

eight to seven per cent, the Italian

has been beset by delivery difficulties

year.

Simca come third with an increase

almost one per cent to four per cent

just under. Then come Peugeot with

little under two per cent and Citroën

over one and a half per cent.

(Hannoversche Presse, 29 March 1971)

number of factories will already be instructed to stagger the times at which they carry out certain work processes involving considerable atmospheric pollution.

At Stage Two the level of sulphur dioxide has already reached a dangerous point. Industrial concerns, particularly refineries and power stations, will be ordered to use fuel low in sulphur content and to cease all operations likely to produce large amounts of harmful exhaust fumes.

The major purpose of the whole exercise is to stop Stage Three from being reached, if the smog alarm plan proves genuinely efficient it ought never to occur. Stage Three presupposes a concentration of 1.5 milligrams per cubic metre of sulphur dioxide per cubic metre of air.

With pollution at this level the health risk for the general public is serious, indeed acute. In this eventuality it is proposed to take vigorous action, closing down all factories and even temporarily banning private traffic in town.

Car exhaust fumes are such an important factor in atmospheric pollution that a temporary ban on the use of private cars is one of the fastest means of alleviating the situation.

The various stages of the plan and the measures involved do not require fresh legislation. Industrial regulations provide factory inspectors with ample powers to impose restrictions and bans of this kind, and the police also have the power to ban all traffic in a limited area and for a limited period of time in order to avoid critical situations.

The only possibility of trouble in the Mannheim and Ludwigshafen region is that the border between Baden-Württemberg and the Rhineland-Palatinate runs right through the middle of it.

Manfred Bornschein
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 20 March 1971)

Rare drivers

Fifty-nine per cent of motorists in this country can look back on traffic offences of one kind or another. Twenty-two per cent have only one previous conviction, 23 per cent two or three and fourteen per cent more than three past offences on record, according to an Altenbach opinion poll.

Forty-seven per cent of adults over the age of sixteen, including West Berliners, have driving-licences. Sixty-eight per cent of the male population are licence-holders while only 28 per cent of women have taken their driving-test.

Thirty-one per cent of the population reckon to be at the wheel every day or at least every other day. Nine per cent drive at least once a week, two per cent once a month and a further two per cent only once a year. These figures apply to private cars. (DIE WELT, 13 March 1971)

Animal crossings

In the 300,000 or so road accidents a year involving wild animals some thirty people die and about 2,000 are injured. The damage to property involved amounts to roughly fifty million Marks.

Four accidents in five occur where there are no road signs giving advance warning of the possibility. Two out of three occur in May, October and November, the rutting season, according to ADAC, the country's major motoring organisation.

The most dangerous time of day is dusk, between six and nine in the evening, when one accident in three occurs. Every year 300,000 animals are killed, including about 60,000 deer and 120,000 hares.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 31 March 1971)

Frankfurter Allgemeine
ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

One of the world's top ten

"Zeitung für Deutschland" ("Newspaper for Germany") is a designation that reflects both the Frankfurter Allgemeine's underlying purpose and, more literally, its circulation — which covers West Berlin and the whole of the Federal Republic. In addition to 140 editors and correspondents of its own, the paper has 450 "stringers" reporting from all over Germany and around the world. 300,000 copies are printed daily, of which 220,000 go to subscribers. 20,000 are distributed

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